

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 999.1

ASSESSMENT RATES

§ 998.409 Assessment rate.

On and after July 1, 1998, an administrative assessment rate of \$0.33 per net ton of farmers stock peanuts received or acquired other than those described in § 998.31 (c) and (d) is established for handlers signatory to the Agreement. Assessments are due on the 15th of the month following the month in which the farmers stock peanuts are received or acquired.

[63 FR 41184, Aug. 3, 1998]

PART 999—SPECIALTY CROPS; IMPORT REGULATIONS

Sec.

- 999.1 Regulation governing the importation of dates.
- 999.100 Regulation governing imports of walnuts.
- 999.200 Regulation governing the importation of prunes.
- 999.300 Regulation governing importation of raisins.
- 999.400 Regulation governing the importation of filberts.
- 999.500 Safeguard procedures for walnuts and certain dates exempt from grade, size, quality, and maturity requirements.
- 999.600 Regulation governing imports of peanuts.

AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 601-674; 7 U.S.C. 1445c-3, and 7 U.S.C. 7271.

§ 999.1 Regulation governing the importation of dates.

(a) *Definitions.* (1) *Dates in retail packages* means whole or pitted dates, other than dates prepared or preserved, wrapped or packaged for sale at retail.

(2) *Dates for packaging* means whole or pitted dates in bulk containers which are to be repacked, in whole or part, in the United States as dates in retail packages.

(3) *Bulk container* means any container of dates which, together with the dates therein, weighs more than ten pounds.

(4) *Dates for processing* means any dates for use in a bakery, confectionery, or other product and includes dates coated with a substance materially altering their color.

(5) *Dates prepared or preserved* means dates processed into a confection or other product, dates coated with a sub-

stance materially altering their color, or dates prepared for incorporation into a product by chopping, slicing, or other processing which materially alters their form.

(6) *Person* means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or other business unit.

(7) *Fruit and Vegetable Division* means the Fruit and Vegetable Division of the Consumer and Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

(8) *USDA inspector* means an inspector of the Processed Products Standardization and Inspection Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Division or any other duly authorized employee of the USDA.

(9) *Inspection certificate* means a written statement or memorandum report issued by a USDA inspector setting forth in addition to appropriate descriptive information the quality and condition of the product inspected, and in the case of imported dates, a statement of meeting or failing, as applicable, the U.S. import requirements under section 8e of the AMA Act of 1937.

(10) *Importation* means release from custody of United States Bureau of Customs.

(b) *Grade requirements.* (1) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, the importation into the United States of any lot of dates for packaging or dates in retail packages is prohibited unless the dates are wholesome and unadulterated and meet the following grade requirements which are determined to be comparable to those imposed upon domestic dates handled pursuant to Order No. 987, as amended (part 987 of this chapter: The whole or pitted dates in the lot are of one variety, and are of such quality and condition that upon inspection on the basis of a representative sample thereof, with hydration (of the sample) in accordance with good commercial practice or without any hydration, the dates possess a reasonably good color, are reasonably uniform in size, are reasonably free from defects, possess a reasonably good character, and score not less than 80 points when scored in